

CHRONOLOGY OF NORTHAMPTON

- 1652 Land purchased from the Indians by John Pynchon.
- 1654 Arrival of first settlers. Town planted and named Nonotuck.
- 1655 First Meeting-house built and name changed to Northampton.
- 1656 Witchcraft trial.
- 1658 First court held.
- 1659 First ferry across the Connecticut River.
- 1661 Cemetery located on Bridge Street.
- 1664 First school established.
- 1675-78 King Phillips War.
- 1676 Northampton attacked by Indians.
- 1727 Jonathan Edwards minister of First Parish.
- 1730 Southampton set off.
- 1737 First court house built.
- 1775 April 21, Minute Men under command of Capt. John Allen set out for Lexington.
- 1778 Westhampton set off.
- 1779 Ferry Landing between Northampton and South Hadley.
- 1785 Easthampton set off.
- 1786 First newspaper, the Hampshire Gazette.
- 1792 First Post Office and Stage Line to Boston.
- 1808 First bridge over the Connecticut River.
- 1818 Hampshire, Franklin and Hampden Agricultural Society organized.
- 1823 Henry Clay visited Northampton.

1825 Lafayette visited Northampton.

1839 First Public Library.

1845 First Railroad.

1845 Visit of Rufus Choate and Daniel Webster in connection with Smith Will case.

1845 Smith Charities established December 22.

1848 Smith Charities built (October).

1849 Town Hall built.

1851 Jenny Lind sang in the old First Church.

1861-65 Northampton furnished 751 men and \$71,000 bounty for Civil War.

1866 First street railway.

1867 Clarke School for the Deaf established.

1874 May 16-Mill River Flood Disaster.

1875 Smith College opened with 14 students.

1883 Northampton becomes a city.

1887 Home Culture Clubs (Later People's Institute).

1890 Lilly Library open to the public.

1892 Academy of Music given to Northampton by Mr. E.H.R. Lyman.

1895 Forbes Library open to the public.

1898 Northampton sent about 135 men to the Spanish-American War of whom 22 died.

1899 Visit by President McKinley.

1904 250th Anniversary celebrated.

1909 Smith's Ferry annexed to Holyoke.

1910-11 Calvin Coolidge, Mayor of Northampton.

- 1915 Hampshire County Branch of National Red Cross organized.
- 1917 Northampton sent 771 soldiers to World War I, of whom 26 died.
- 1919 Northampton Chamber of Commerce organized.
- 1919-20 Calvin Coolidge, Governor of Massachusetts.
- 1920 Calvin Coolidge elected as Vice-President of the United States.
- 1923 Calvin Coolidge took oath President of the United States after death of President Harding.
- 1924 Calvin Coolidge elected President of the United States.
- 1926 Frank Newhall Look Memorial Park accepted by voters of Northampton. Deed of gift accepted June 21, 1928.
- 1930 July 4 – Park dedicated and opened.
- 1933 January 7 – President Hoover visited Northampton to attend funeral of ex-President Coolidge.
- 1936 March 15 – Connecticut River Flood.
- 1938 September 21 – Hurricane and Flood.
- 1939 Dedication of Calvin Coolidge Memorial Bridge.
- 1940 Flood Control completed with Mill River conversion.
- 1941 Northampton High School, Elm Street completed.
- 1941 Northampton sent approximately 2,900 men and women to World War II of whom 90 died.
- 1942 United States Naval Reserve Midshipmen's School (WR) established at Northampton.
- 1950 Radio Station WHMP commenced operations.
- 1951 New School built on Jackson Street.
- 1952 New Leeds School built.
- 1954 June 13-20 tercentenary Celebration.

- 1959 September 11 – first day of operation of Sewage Plant.
- 1964 John F. Kennedy Florence Junior High School.
- 1967 Ryan Road School dedicated.
- 1969 January 9 – President-elect Richard M. Nixon visited Northampton for his birthday.
- 1969 New West Whately Reservoir started.
- 1970 January 9 – President Nixon visited Northampton for his 57th birthday.
- 1974 First parcel in Northampton Industrial Park sold to a redeveloper.
- 1978 Main Street Center/Thorne's Market opens.
- 1979 Sewage Treatment Plant upgrading begun.
- 1983 Sewage Treatment Plant upgrading completed. Went from a Primary S.T.P. to a Secondary Wastewater Treatment plant, with a capacity of 8.6 million gallons per day.
- 1984 Center for the Arts opens in newly-renovated Sullivan School Building.
- 1987 Final parcel sold to fill Industrial Park with 18 companies in place.
- 1988 Construction begun on first Downtown Parking Garage.
- 1989 September 8 – Groundbreaking of Leeds School addition and renovation.
- 1989 September 11 – Groundbreaking of Bridge Street School addition and renovation.
- 1989 October 1 – Downtown Parking Garage opened.
- 1999 New Fire Station opened
- 2001 High School expansion and rehabilitation completed.